

Van Meter News



April 2014

CITY OF VAN METER

NOTICE OF ROAD CLOSURE— APRIL 14-24

The School District will be closing East Street/Richland Road to install a pedestrian underpass as a part of their facilities improvement project. **The road will be closed for 10 days from Monday, April 14 to Thursday, April 24.**



Elected Officials:

-Allan Adams, Mayor

Council Members—

-Kim Sacker,
Mayor Pro Tem

-Bob Lacy

-Michael Peterson

-Owen Stump

-Elizabeth Tweed

City Staff:

City Hall -
515-996-2644

Jake Anderson-
City Administrator
515-954-6094

Liz Thompson-Clerk
515-669-6396

Lisa Tuma-
Deputy Clerk/Rec
515-996-2644

David Herman-
Public Works
515-240-9280

Chad Gillespie-
Public Works
515-371-9933

Bill Daggett-Police Chief
515-202-4154
Dispatch: 515-993-4567

Jolena Welker-
Library Director
515-996-2435

Michelle Boren-
Library Assistant
515-996-2435

VAN METER PARKS AND RECREATION

Garage Sale Day

SPRING IS COMING!! Why not start your spring cleaning by having a Garage Sale? Move out some of those "treasures" in the garage, basement and closets!!! The Annual Community Garage Sale Day will be **Saturday, May 10 from 8am to 3pm**. To register and have your items listed on the map, fill out the form below and return it along with your \$5.00 to City Hall or to a Park Board member by May 1!!! We ask that **all** sites register and pay \$5.00 which helps defray the cost of advertising and printing maps. All registered will be entered into a drawing for a free floral hanging basket.



Van Meter Garage Sale Registration...

Items you'll have for sale:

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

___ \$5.00 Cash or Check Attached. Make checks payable to the VM Park and Rec Board.

For those that ordered plants from the park board, they will be available for pick up on Saturday, May 10 between 8am and 2pm. If you did not order in advance, there will be extras available for purchase the day of the sale. Pickup at the City Maintenance Building (just west of Casey's) Just in time for Mother's Day!!!

If a garage sale isn't your "thing" or others don't buy your "treasure," the City sells bulk waste stickers and stickers for extra bags.. Bulk stickers are \$5 and extra bag stickers are \$1. We also have a USagain recycle bin at city hall for clothes and shoes. Spring cleaning has never been easier.

APRIL RECYCLING SCHEDULE

Monday, April 7

Monday, April 21

AREA PARKS

Trindle Park is located in the southeast corner of Van Meter and is owned and operated by Dallas County. It has the following facilities: picnic tables, shelter houses, running water, restrooms and playground equipment. Both shelter houses hold up to fifty people and the rental fee is \$15. Call The Dallas County Conservation office in Perry at 515-465-3577 or visit their website at www.co.dallas.tx.us/conservation for information and/or for an email address.

Also on their website you can find great information on "Natural Events" and summer day camps - activities that the whole family can enjoy.

Johnson Park is also a great park for the community to use. It is located at the end of Division Avenue with a walking trail, playground equipment and a shelter house with electricity.

Voas Nature Area near Minburn—Join the Dallas County Conservation Board in starting a new tradition - **a spring egg hunt!** You will be looking in bird boxes, under leaf piles, in rotting logs, wetlands and dark corners for the eggs which wild animals (not the Easter bunny) have produced. Learn more about when and why animals lay eggs and how they develop as you explore the prairies, woods, and wetlands. Dress to be outdoors in clothes that can get damp and dirty. Remember -there is no chocolate at the end of this egg hunt!

Registration is required for this free program. Please contact their office for more information or to register: 515-465-3577 or conservation@co.dallas.tx.us (please include the number of adults/children and a contact phone number in your email).

EASTER EGG HUNT

WHERE: JOHNSON PARK

WHEN: SATURDAY, APRIL 19

TIME: 10am

**The Easter Bunny
will be there!!!**



**Lots of CANDY & GOODIES
for kids age 10 and under.**

Sponsored by the Van Meter Park & Rec Board

"SUN"sational Raccoon River Days 2014

Check for updates on the city Facebook page and/or website at www.vanmeteria.gov.

For additional questions contact Becca at 515-210-2848 or Send emails to: raccoonriverdays@gmail.com

Save the Date!

June 6, 7, 8

WEEDS, PERMITS, YARD WASTE...

Weeds and brush ordinance #211—Dense growth of all weeds, vines, brush or other vegetation in the City can constitute a health, safety or fire hazard. Any property within the City, other than ag land, whether vacated or non-vacated, is required to be mowed prior to the vegetation reaching a height of ten inches. Violation will result in the City arranging to mow the property at the property owner's expense. Full content of this ordinance can be found on our website.

Building Permits—Spring usually brings household projects. Permit applications can be obtained from our office or they can be found online at www.vanmeteria.gov. Failure to follow this procedure can result in construction to be removed so the required inspection may be made. The applicant is responsible to know where the property lines are located, not the City of Van Meter or Veenstra & Kimm, Inc.

Remember to call Iowa One Call for locates—the # is 1-800-292-8989 OR dial 811. It's a good idea to do this as well if you're doing some major landscaping.

Yard Waste—Waste Connections will collect yard waste the same day as your regular trash beginning April 1st through November 30th each year. Use biodegradable wet strength approved paper bags less than 50lbs. NO PLASTIC BAGS. Twigs and small branches may be in securely tied bundles no more than 4 ft in length or wider than 18 inches in diameter.

SPRING TRAFFIC SAFETY—VM PUBLIC SAFETY

Spring is here! The kids that were stuck inside because of the cold weather can't wait to be OUTSIDE!

Please help us keep them safe. Obey all traffic laws and watch for children in the streets.



JOIN OUR TEAM

The Van Meter Fire Department is actively recruiting community members to help us protect the community.

April 2014

LIBRARY NEWS—CHECK IT OUT!!

SPRING, SPRING, SPRING!!



Phone: 515-996-2435

Email: jwelker@vanmeteria.gov or

mboren@vanmeteria.gov

I hope everyone is enjoying the outdoors as much as possible. The snow is melting and the sun is shining! I don't even mind the mud. Be sure to stop in and enjoy the library and the park.

Whether you bike, walk, run or just sit out under the sun and stars—**ENJOY!** We have books and magazines on all these interests and more. Biking, walking, gardening, farming, outdoor adventures and **MORE** all here at your local library.

Our Adult Winter Reading contest was a lot of fun! The winners were: Shannon Buckner, Becky Trimble, Rachel Backstrom, Carole Barlean, Stacey Rhodes, Nancy Lacy and Kim Dawson. We had 25 adults participate and over 150 books read. Becky Trimble read the most books at 28! **Thank you again to the following businesses: The Van Meter Vet Clinic, b.organic, Integrated Sales, Wells Fargo, Caseys, E-Bank and Fat Randi's.**

Coming up in April:

- **April 10th**—Crocheting and Knitting group 6:30pm
- **April 15th**—FRIEND's of the library meeting at 6:30pm. Bev Trytek is the new president of the FRIENDS. This meeting is open to everyone.
- **April 17th**—Book club - we will be discussing "The Neighbor" by Lisa Gardner and handing out the next read. 7pm
- **April 24th**—Sci-Fi Fantasy lover book club 7pm

FRIEND's of the Van Meter Public Library are accepting donations of popular fiction for children and adults. Donations may be dropped off at the library and mark it for the FRIEND's book sale in May. Jolena and Michelle will set these aside separately as we appreciate all and any donations. The book sale and luncheon will be held on May 10th at the Methodist Church in Van Meter. Proceeds from the sale benefit the FRIEND'S of the Van Meter Public Library.

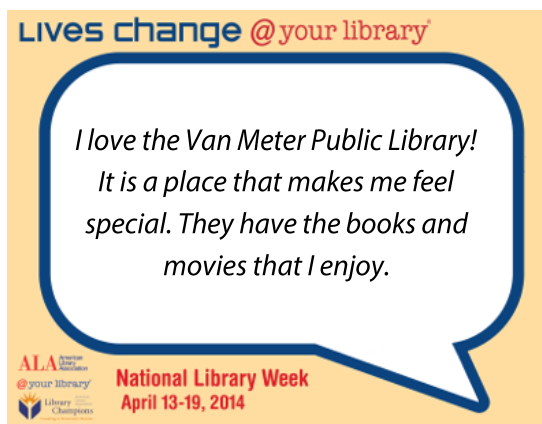
Thank you!

Jolena and Michelle

Celebrate National Library Week—

April 13-19, 2014

Tell us how the library has changed your life. Use the "speech bubble" to tell your story. You can even snap a "selfie" with your "speech bubble." We want to hear from everyone!



Library Hours

Mon, Fri—9am-5pm

Tues—3pm-8pm

Wed, Th—9am-8pm

Sat—9 am to noon

"LIBRARIES AND LIBRARIANS HAVE A POWERFUL AND POSITIVE IMPACT ON THE LIVES OF AMERICANS ON A DAILY BASIS. THEIR STORIES ARE KEY TO COMMUNICATING THE VALUE OF LIBRARIES. NATIONAL LIBRARY WEEK IS THE PERFECT OPPORTUNITY TO ENCOURAGE YOUR COMMUNITY TO TELL THE STORY OF HOW THE LIBRARY HAS CHANGED THEIR LIFE."

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PO BOX 160
VAN METER IA 50261
Phone: 515-996-2644
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**"LIKE" City of
Van Meter
on Facebook!**



According to Wikipedia, Earth Day is an annual event, celebrated on April 22, on which events are held worldwide to demonstrate support for environmental protection. It was first celebrated in 1970, and is now coordinated globally by the Earth Day Network, and celebrated in more than 192 countries each year.

WWW.VANMETERIA.GOV



DID YOU KNOW...?

- It takes 2 to 5 gallons of water to brush your teeth if you leave the water running.
- Dishwashers use 8 to 15 gallons of water
- Flushing the toilet uses 1.5 to 4 gallons of water
- Showers/baths use 17 to 24 gallons
- 35 to 50 gallons used per load of laundry

IS WATER REALLY A BARGAIN?

It depends on if you think of water as a valuable resource. According to the United States of Geological Survey group, up to 60% of your body is made of water. We have all heard that drinking eight-8 ounce glasses of water is a daily recommendation. On that basis alone, water rates as the #1 valuable resource. Let's make some cost comparison: currently, the average price of water in the United States is about \$1.50 for 1,000 gallons. At that price, **a gallon of tap water costs less than one penny.**

◇ Milk.....	\$2.45 per gallon
◇ Cola (24 oz @ \$1.75).....	\$8.96 per gallon
◇ Flavored Beverage (16 oz @ \$1.29).....	\$10.32 per gallon
◇ Ice Tea (16 oz @ \$1.19).....	\$9.52 per gallon
◇ Juice (16 oz at \$1.25).....	\$10.00 per gallon
◇ Mouth Wash (1.5 oz @ \$.99).....	\$84.48 per gallon
◇ Bottled Water (9 oz @\$1.19).....	\$21.19 per gallon

Fix that leaky faucet. If your faucet is dripping at the rate of one drop per second, you can expect to waste 2,700 gallons of water per year.

Check your toilet tank for leaks. Add food coloring to the tank. If the toilet is leaking, color will appear within 30 minutes. A leaky toilet can waste as much as 100 gallons/day.



In addition to the collection of CFL bulbs, the City is also a collection site for rechargeable batteries and cell phones.

reduce, reuse, recycle